



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE SERVICES**

450 Columbus Blvd Ste 1
Hartford CT 06103-1837

**TAXPAYER SERVICES
SPECIAL BULLETIN**

TSSB 2021-4

Original Issue Date: 05/24/2021

Last Updated: 05/25/2021

Frequently Asked Questions Concerning the Back to Work CT Program

1. What is the “Back to Work CT Program?”

On Monday, May 17, 2021, Governor Ned Lamont announced the *Back to Work CT Program*. The goal of the program is to incentivize long-term unemployed people who live in Connecticut to return to the workforce. If eligible individuals meet certain criteria, they will receive a one-time, \$1,000 incentive payment from the State of Connecticut. Full details regarding the *Back to Work CT Program* are outlined in the Governor’s announcement of May 17, 2021.

portal.ct.gov/Office-of-the-Governor/News/Press-Releases/2021/05-2021/Governor-Lamont-Announces-Back-to-Work-CT-Program

2. What is the authority for the “Back to Work CT Program?”

The *Back to Work CT Program* was authorized by Governor Lamont. At the Governor’s direction, the Department of Revenue Services (DRS) will administer the *Back to Work CT Program* in coordination with the Connecticut Department of Labor.

3. When does the “Back to Work CT Program” start?

The program begins on May 30, 2021 and ends on December 31, 2021.

4. What are the requirements to be eligible to earn the back to work incentive payment? (Answer updated on 05/25/2021)

To be eligible, a person must:

- Have filed an unemployment compensation weekly claim with the State of Connecticut for the week May 23 - 29, 2021;
 - Have filed an unemployment compensation weekly claim with the State of Connecticut for eleven additional weeks between December 27, 2020 and May 22, 2021;
 - Obtain and maintain a full-time job for eight consecutive weeks between May 30, 2021 and December 31, 2021;
 - Not file an unemployment compensation weekly claim with the State of Connecticut for any portion of the required eight consecutive weeks of employment; **and**
 - File the application with DRS.
-

5. How does a person claim the back to work incentive payment?

To claim the \$1,000 back to work incentive payment, a person is required to complete **Form CT-BTW**, *Back to Work CT Program Application*. **Form CT-BTW** must be submitted electronically; no paper applications will be accepted.

6. When will Form CT-BTW be available?

Form CT-BTW is currently being developed and will be posted on the DRS website on or before Tuesday, June 1, 2021.

7. Will supporting documentation need to be submitted to DRS when filing Form CT-BTW?

Yes. To verify eligibility, each person who submits **Form CT-BTW** to DRS must provide a paystub (or equivalent) that indicates or otherwise establishes wages earned for a period of eight consecutive weeks between May 30, 2021 and December 31, 2021.

Individuals will be able to upload a paystub (or equivalent) when submitting **Form CT-BTW**.

8. Does a person need to be a Connecticut resident to qualify for the back to work incentive payment?

Yes. In addition to meeting the requirements outlined in *Question 4*, a person must be a Connecticut resident for the 2021 taxable year in order to be eligible to earn an incentive payment.

9. Is a person eligible for the back to work incentive payment if the person received unemployment compensation from another state?

No.

10. Is a person eligible for the back to work incentive payment if the job the person obtained under the “Back to Work CT Program” is in another state?

Yes. However, the person must continue to be a Connecticut resident during the eight consecutive weeks that are required under the program.

11. Is eligibility for the “Back to Work CT Program” subject to income limits?

No.

12. If a person is eligible for the incentive payment but has an outstanding tax debt to DRS, will that payment be subject to offset to satisfy the tax debt?

No.

13. Can a person qualify for more than one back to work incentive payment?

No.

14. Can an individual and his or her spouse both earn and claim the back to work incentive payment?

Yes, provided the individual and his or her spouse each meet the requirements outlined in *Question 4*, both the individual and his or her spouse can earn and claim an incentive payment.

15. How much funding is available for the “Back to Work CT Program?”

Governor Lamont has allocated \$10 million for this program.

Effective Date: Upon issuance.

Effect on Other Documents: None.

For Further Information: Visit the DRS website at portal.ct.gov/DRS.

Call DRS Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at:

- **800-382-9463** (Connecticut calls outside the Greater Hartford calling area only); **or**
- **860-297-5962** (from anywhere).

TTY, TDD, and Text Telephone users **only** may transmit inquiries anytime by calling 860-297-4911. Taxpayers may also call 711 for relay services. A taxpayer must tell the 711 operator the number he or she wishes to call. The relay operator will dial it and then communicate using a TTY with the taxpayer.

E-Services Update

A new modernized system, **myconneCT**, will replace the *TSC* (Taxpayer Service Center) as part of a multi-year, multi-phase project. Many tax types are already able to be filed using **myconneCT** and more will be added each year. Use **myconneCT** to file taxes, make payments, view filing history, and communicate with the agency simply and more efficiently on virtually any mobile device, including laptops, tablets, and smartphones, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. For updated information on the progress of this project and the transition schedule for specific taxes, please visit the DRS website at portal.ct.gov/DRS-myconneCT.

TSSB 2021-4
Miscellaneous
Original Issue Date: 05/24/2021
Last Updated: 05/25/2021